Welcome
We welcome Mrs Wendy Donelly who is replacing Ms Jen O’Shea while she is on leave with family. Wendy has been working successfully and enthusiastically with many of our students and classes.

On Monday the 8th August we will also welcome Sethmi (Year 2) to our St Benedict’s learning community. For the time being Sethmi will be a part-time student at the school and a full-time member of the community as she transitions to St Benedict’s and I know you will welcome her and her family with open arms with open arms!

Forming identity amongst boys and girls
I went to a high school for boys in Adelaide in the 80’s and surprisingly it was here that I consciously began to understand the nature of human diversity.

Most single-sex high schools originated in an era when boys and girls were treated quite differently to each other. Many of our own parents tell us that during their own schooling boys and girls were provided with quite different educational pathways. Boys were often directed towards science, mathematics and academic pursuits that prepared them for the work they pursued after schooling was complete. Girls were steered towards subjects reflecting the limited positions that women occupied in society in either the home or work. Our religious all-boys also sought to develop boys as future leaders (because men occupied all leadership positions in society and the church) or to become the next generation of brothers and priests.

Thankfully by the time I attended high school it had begun to reflect society’s changing values around gender equity and was journeying beyond these previously restrictive views. In fact it so valued a more diverse experience for students that, while I was there, it chose to open its enrolments to girls in Year 11 and 12 when the adjacent girls school only offered positions to Year 10.

While it worked hard to push the boundaries and expectations it still had at that time a student culture with a particular perception of what it means to be a boy or man and almost every boy measured themselves and others against it. In the high school years, a natural time of searching for identity, this became particularly acute. I’m sure if I asked each of the 120 boys that were part of my cohort they would describe that the ‘ideal boy’ to which everyone measured themselves against was most likely athletic, active, straight, charismatic and moderately clever. The irony, is that I cannot think of one boy in my entire year level, including me, that fit that exact perception of an ‘ideal boy’.

Nurturing personal and academic growth...
...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.
As I reflect back I realise this is when I first consciously began to understand humanity’s diversity even within similarly cultural groups. I began to see significant difference to typical experience was not brokenness or a ‘fault’ that needed fixing, rather it was part of one’s identity. One simple example of this is general society’s evolving understanding and acceptance of a person identifying as gay. What was, many decades ago considered an illness, a ‘fault’ with a person, is now considered an integral part of a person’s identity.

The are many other non-gender related ways of explaining this move from a view of illness to identity which I will happily explore further later in this series of newsletters.

In the meantime, as an adult, now very comfortable in my own skin, I see the realm of gender as one of the first places beyond the family where we learn to truly experience and understand diversity and in so doing learn to truly love and accept ourselves and others. Apart from the modelling of our parents, it’s in the ways children play and learn together with brothers and sisters and friends at school that they start building their idea of gender identity and how they see themselves. It can also be influenced by television, books and other media. In these topics of conversation, we have the opportunity to teach our children that there are many ways of being a boy and many ways of being a girl and more importantly there are many more ways of just being that are common to both.

Boys and girls come in all shapes and sizes; in physical appearance, intellectual capacities, interests and talents, loves, likes and dislikes and desires and aspirations. Primary schools are diverse communities with an excellent opportunity to learn about diversity. Schools and parents who recognise and break down assumptions about boys and girls, especially where there is no wide evidence to support these assumptions, help children learn acceptance and kindness towards others they experience as different from themselves. While children are still growing and maturing it is the perfect opportunity outside the family to have the conversations and model the behaviour that shows respect towards those of the same or different gender and open up the opportunities and experiences we provide for all.

I am confident that schools such as my old high school work today to break down gender assumptions and build broader opportunities for the gender they serve. I also feel very fortunate to be in a co-ed school community that also values welcome, respect and diversity and where a broad ranging group of boys and girls can learn to see that gender is just one point of uniqueness about each person and is to be celebrated and valued along with the very many different ways we are each unique.

**MS Readathon**

Please see information later in this Newsletter about how your child can participate in the MS Readathon. You may remember the joy of the MS Readathon from when you were a child. Thank you to Julia (Year 4) and Brigid (Year 2) suggestion we could use the current reading for the Chief Minister’s Reading Challenge to raise money to support research for prevention and treatment of MS as well as supporting those with MS and their families. When registering online please connect with our school so that the students can see their combined efforts in this valuable venture.

Have a lovely weekend.

Matthew Garton
Principal
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

Confirmation
Thank you to the families who attended our Information Evening last night. It was a valuable time to gather and share our thoughts on the journey to Confirmation. A reminder that all enrollments for Confirmation in St Benedict’s Parish in 2016 were due in by 21st July. Preparation dates for Confirmation are as below. Father Tony Percy will celebrate Confirmation in the St Benedict’s Parish on Saturday 17th September at the 6:00pm Mass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th August</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>Church then Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th August</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>Church then Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th September</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>St Benedict’s Church</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates &amp; sponsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th September</td>
<td>6:00 – 7:30pm</td>
<td>Confirmation Mass</td>
<td>St Benedict’s Church</td>
<td>Candidates, sponsors &amp; Families &amp; Parish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Friday Mass / Grandparent’s Day
Next Friday, 5th August, will be our First Friday Mass for the month of August. The feast day of Sts Joachim and Anne (grandparents of Jesus) was on Tuesday, 26th July, however we will use our First Friday Mass on 5th August to celebrate Grandparents’ Day at St Benedict’s. We will celebrate from 10:00am with Mass, morning tea and special activities.

Wanted - Photos
As part of our reflection during First Friday Mass, Year 2 are after photos of grandparents. This can be with or without their grandchildren. If you have any photos you would like to share, please send a copy to Mr Siljeg. This can be in digital form (via email/USB) or a hardcopy for scanning. Could photos please be sent in by Friday 29th July.

St Mary MacKillop
Monday 8th August is the feast day of our first Australian saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The whole school will gather to celebrate this special day with a liturgy in the Hall. The liturgy will begin at 10:30am. Students in 3/4 are busy preparing for this feast day celebration. Families are warmly welcomed to join us in honouring Australia’s first saint.

Feast of the Assumption
Monday 15th August, Feast of the Assumption of Mary, is the first of Australia’s two Holy Days of Obligation in the Catholic Church (the second being Christmas Day). The whole school will celebrate this special day with Mass in St Benedict’s Church. Mass will begin at our usual time of 10:00am.

Meaghan Younger
Religious Education Coordinator
SCHOOL NOTICES

Weekly Notes
The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the website.

- Grandparents’ Day Invitation
- Grandparents’ Day RSVP – Due 1st August
- Scholastics Book Club – Due 10th August (not on the website)
- Redgum Book Club – Due 10th August (not on the website)
- Yr 4 Camp – Due 12th August
- Canteen Roster (Any help is appreciated)
- Tournaments of the Mind (Volunteered Students)
- Science Week Excursion (Yr 4 to Yr 6)
- Yr 2 Parent Rep Note

Dates to Remember
✓ 1st & 2nd August – Commonwealth Bank Smart Start Workshops for students
✓ 2nd August – Parents & Friends Meeting, 6.30pm
✓ 5th August – Grandparents Day & Mass, 10.00am (Yr 2)
✓ 8th August – Feast of St Mary MacKillop – Mass 10.00am (Yr 3/4)
✓ 9th August – School Board Meeting, 6.30pm
✓ 12th August – Science Week Excursion (Yr 4 to Yr 6)

Canteen
FRIDAY, 29 JULY
9.00am – 11.30am
Helpers Needed
Helpers Needed
11.30am – 2.00pm
Helpers Needed
Helpers Needed
MONDAY, 1 AUGUST
9.00am – 11.30am
Helpers Needed
Helpers Needed
11.30am – 2.00pm
Helpers Needed
Helpers Needed

Thank you for all helpers so far this year. A new Canteen Roster will be coming home this week. Please continue to let Belinda know at the Front Office if you are able to help any time given is greatly appreciated.
Nancy Lyons, Canteen Manager

Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their special day this week: Willoughby J, Olivia K, Tahnee T, Henry P, Arran S, Adam A and Julia N.

Clothing Pool
The Clothing Pool is open every Friday after assembly 2.45pm to 3.15pm.

Merit Certificates

Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KINDERGARTEN</th>
<th>Amelia J and Henry P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>Michael R and William C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>Juach G and Brigid N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3/4E</td>
<td>Joel T and Lilly M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3/4B</td>
<td>Jacinta V and Julia N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5/6S</td>
<td>Brooke L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5/6Y</td>
<td>Michala O, Anica K, Susanna C and Tomas C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITALIAN</td>
<td>Edith Q and Oliver J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL AWARDS</td>
<td>Olivia K, Michala O, Phoebe Mc, Amber T and Lauren C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHINING STARS</td>
<td>Olivia K, Georgina T, Matthew B, Justin T, Lauren C, Brooke L, Amber T, Michala O and Lachlan O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Point Winners
The points for Week 1, Term 3 were Murrumai 8,770, Arakoola 11,595 and Tangara 9,376.

At the end of Week 1, Term 3 the year totals were: Murrumai 40,503, Arakoola 42,144 and Tangara 34,836.

CONGRATULATIONS to this week’s winners: Arakoola 11,595!

Well done to Year 3/4E who earned the most house points (13,605)!
ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
If you have an Entertainment book at home could you please return it ASAP as, the school needs to return them or pay for them.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Parish News
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm

Parish Pastoral Council Fr Stephen Fletcher 6295 7879
RCIA Coordinator Matthew Toohey 0409 157 552

Neighbourhood Care
Gowrie Court Helen French 6239 4300
Meals Parish Office 6295 8027

Weekend Mass Times
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 9.00am
Youth Mass 7.00pm (last Sunday of the Month)
Charismatic Mass 7.00pm (last Sunday of the Month)
Baptisms: 11.00am, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month

Sunday Youth Mass: Youth Mass is held at 7pm on the last Sunday of every month. Next Youth Mass is 31st July.

Families are warmly invited to the 9am Mass and children are welcomed and encouraged to join in the activities of Kingdom Kids. Enquiries can be made to Anita or email her on kingdomkidsministry01@gmail.com. Remember the prayer wall for those intension you want the children to pray for.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
St Benedict’s Parish Narrabundah is offering a unique opportunity for a 14-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Fr. David Callaghan MGL, to visit the birthplace of Jesus, places of different points in his ministry as well as his crucifixion and tomb; see attached itinerary. The Pilgrimage departs on 30th October 2016 and the Early-Bird special of $ 4,999.00 has been extended to 15th August 2016. Price includes airfares, visas, transfers, 4-star accommodation, all meals plus other inclusions. If you are interested, please contact Wayne Caruana on 0466 631 394.

Australian Church Women Fellowship Day will be held at All Saints Anglican Church, Ainslie on Friday 29th July at 11.00am. All very welcome. A light lunch $6.00 follows the service. For more information, please ring Mary Smith on 6295 9583.
Follow the Australian Journey to World Youth Day with live web cast on Xt3.com

Many friends, family and parishioners will have the opportunity to follow Australia's journey to the city of mercy with the live web cast of events from Krakow through the digital platform Xt3.com. From 26-31 July, main events from Krakow will be broadcast live at: www.xt3.com/live.

The ACBC will share stories, photos and videos about the Australian experiences throughout WYD via the ACBC website, Facebook and Twitter, follow @ACBCYouthMin and @ACBC1 or visit Catholic.org.au.

A Morning with Pope Francis on “The Joy of Love”.

Sunday 31st July start at 10.15am. Brief summary and sharing on Pope Francis latest Exhortation on Family and Marriage. An easy and relaxed way of understanding this latest document from the Pope. All welcome to join and have a cuppa in the Parish Centre.

Mercy in Marriage & Family: On the 12th & 13th August at St Clare’s College Griffith.

Friday 7.00pm: A Night of Mercy: This well be a praterful opporunity to bring together those who may feel hurt, disenfranchised or even neglected by the church. The liturgy is for anyone seeking healing, forgiveness and an experience of God’s merciful love. If you know of people who might be seeking such an experience, please invite them.

Saturday 9.00am: Keynote by Archbishop Christopher Prowse, panel discussions, individual parish gatherings for discussion and planning. Morning tea and lunch provided.

Registration is essential. Please RSVP by 5th August. Need more information? RSVP to 6163 4300.

Call to Connect Women’s Ministry is facilitating a day retreat for all interested women. At: The Carmel, 28 Mugga Way, Red Hill.

On: Saturday 6th August 9.00am – 4.30pm

Theme is “Open the Door of your Heart”: Behold I stand at the Door and knock...(Rev,3:20). The day will include talks, sharing’s, group discussion, person prayer & reflection time, reconciliation and Mass.

Cost $25 (concession available) which includes morning tea, lunch and coffee breaks.

St Clare’s College Class of 1986, 30 Year Reunion

20 August, 7.30 - 11.30pm. Spread the word, rally your friends - it promises be a great night out!


Contact Details: Cecilia Blewii 0404 015 674 or cecilia.blewii@bradleyallenlove.com.au or Anna Basilisco Carey 0416 193 338 or annaecarey@me.com.
SAVE THE DATE
St Joseph’s P-6 School is 60 and we would love you to join us!

November
5-6 2016
Email: joeysis60@gmail.com to receive further info and be involved

Open School
Afternoon Sat 5 Nov
Dinner at Old Parliament House
Evening Sat 5 Nov
Family Mass and Picnic
Morning Sun 6 Nov

BRILLIANT FOOTBALL

Term 3 Program
• High quality technical development
• Inclusive environment – everyone is welcome
• Football Federation Australia curriculum
• For boys and girls age 7 to 12
• Age-appropriate skill development
31 July to 18 September (runs with school term)
Location: Yarralumla Playing Fields
Every Sunday 9:00 to 10:15 am
Register by 24 July and get 20% off
Don’t miss out on this amazing value!

brilliantfootball.com.au
Capturing Springtime at the Arboretum

School children and college students are invited to capture images of the Arboretum which feature:

- new leaves emerging on trees after winter;
- springtime blossoms; or
- wildlife (birds, nests, reptiles, insects, spiders, fungi, plants, etc).

We are encouraging young photographers to take an interest in all the flora and fauna on offer, whilst creating exciting and innovative images (from close-up or afar), recording something of this particular time and place.

The best photos will be displayed in the Village Centre and may appear on the websites of the Arboretum or the Friends of the Arboretum (with credits) and/or may appear in promotional material.

Categories

SCHOOL CHILDREN 12 YEARS AND UNDER
First prize $300 plus a copy of The Arboretum Book
Second prize $150 plus a copy of The Arboretum Book

HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE STUDENTS
First prize $500 plus a copy of The Arboretum Book
Second prize $250 plus a copy of The Arboretum Book

Entry fees
$5.00 per photo. Contestants may submit up to five photos (laminated A4 prints). These may be reclaimed from the Arboretum at or after the prize-giving, or following exhibition if selected.

Guidelines and entry form
Go to www.arboretumcanberra.org.au to download the competition guidelines and entry form.

Judges

Graham Tidy
Photographer with 'The Canberra Times'

David Flannery
Architect and photographer

Linda Muldoon
Photographer/ex-graphic designer

Competition launch

The competition will be launched at 6:00 pm on 9 August in the Margaret Whitlam Pavilion, National Arboretum Canberra, when the judges will present their perspectives on photography.

Prize-giving event

The judges will give an appraisal and prizes will be awarded at 6:00 pm on 12 December in The Terrace Room, National Arboretum Canberra.
23 June 2016

TO: PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: 2016 NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

Catholic schools along with government and Independent schools across Australia will again be participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Our involvement in this process is crucial as it will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students in our schools. The NCCD will enable National and State governments to better target support and resources in schools, this in turn will help Catholic Schools access the support for all students with additional needs.

The NCCD is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which includes a range of health issues and learning difficulties where schools implement strategies to support students in participating effectively in their learning.

The Data Collection will take place in August. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the NCCD, you are asked to contact your child’s principal to discuss your concerns. If you are still concerned you should request and complete an opt-out form and return to the principal.

More information about the NCCD is available at: [http://www.schooldisabilitydataapl.edu.au/](http://www.schooldisabilitydataapl.edu.au/)

Yours sincerely

Patrick Kelly
Senior Officer Wellbeing & Diversity
Sol de España

Flamenco Dance Show

Date: Sunday, 31 July 2016
Time: 12 noon

Venue: Spanish Australian Club Inc.
5 Narupai St, Narrabundah ACT

Tickets: Adults - Members $20.00; Non-members $25.00
Children - $10.00 (under 12 years)

Includes: Paella lunch and show.

Contact: Isabel Fleitas on mobile number -
0419 495 539 or fenix11@bigpond.com to purchase your tickets.

*** CAKE STALL ***
*** RAFFLE ***
HAWKER COLLEGE – RED WIG RUN 2016

We are students from hawker college and we are assisting in the facilitation of the Red Wig Run for 2016. We are looking to be able to promote this fantastic event throughout schools to assist in raising as much money as possible for Ronald McDonald House Canberra.

Help our local House and have a lot of fun by joining the Ronald McDonald House Canberra Red Wig Run and Walk on Sunday 25 October, 2015. The whole family is welcome! Registrations open at Rond Terrace at 7:30am, and the run starts at 9:00am.